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Tri-Town Times

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Vandalism to Sept. 11 Memorial in Hampstead

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Meeting with one member short Monday night, the Board of Selectmen heard from Ordway Park Committee chairwoman Julia Forbes, who reported vandalism at the park's Sept. 11 memorial dedication area.

Forbes said someone tried to remove the granite sphere, and the damage is being repaired. She said she has no intention of adding surveillance cameras to protect the area, as that would be in opposition to the concept of privacy at the memorial.

In other business:

- With chairman Sean Murphy absent to attend to a last minute personal issue, Vice Chairman Rick Hartung decided to table until

the next meeting the issue of whether to do paving work at the police department parking lot. Murphy is the Police Department liaison.

- Road Agent Jon Worthen presented the board with two projects he would like to see undertaken in the next year or so.

The first project is the reclamation of West with two possible approaches. He warned that by improving West Road, more people would speed on the roadway and more people would use it.

The second project is the repair of Shop Pond Dam, which the state Department of Environmental Services Dam Division has already told the Town it must do soon. Worthen estimated the cost of a complete repair and restoration

of the dam area as \$100,000. He said he is seeking a grant to do the work and if it is approved, it would cover 75 percent of the cost.

- Police Chief Joe Beaudoin told the board he has closed applications for full-time and part-time police officers. He said he received 29 applications, four of them from fully certified, full-time officers, with the rest from uncertified officers looking for both full-time and part-time positions. He told the board he will review the applications and make recommendations.

- Beaudoin asked the board if it would approve his looking into lowering the speed limit on Route 121A between Hannaford and the town line. That area currently is at 40 miles per

continued on page 11

Busy Summer for Chester Academy Infrastructure

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – While normally things at Chester Academy are busy during the off months with summer school and administrative work, for the past couple of months the building itself has been getting a makeover. The changes aren't cosmetic, but are aimed at improving the safety of the school's infrastructure, and were approved by the school board with funding from surplus budget money.

A recent walk through the school showed the progress, as bright blue phone lines hung out of ceiling tiles, and classroom furniture was stacked in the hallways.

At the end of the school year, the board approved a number of projects identified in the 5/10 year maintenance and facilities program. The board and administration said they were necessary projects and with some surplus - largely the result of unexpected revenue - decided to get them done this year without the need to ask the taxpayers for more funds in a future budget.

The board agreed with superintendent Jim Gaylord that using surplus was a wise way to complete needed projects without having to ask the public for more money in future years. While the school board has historically returned surplus to the general fund at the end of the year, that has an

effect the following year.

Returned money decreases the tax rate in the year it is returned, but the next year the sum needs to be made up, increasing the tax rate correspondingly than it would have been, had the money not been returned.

The three big projects are the moving of the kindergarten program, a new fire alarm system and a new phone system.

The troublesome old fire alarm system has cost the district about \$28,000 in repairs over the last three years. The entire system has since been replaced at a cost of about \$51,000. Superintendent Jim Gaylord said that if looked at in light of

continued on page 9



HAPPY CAMPERS The Sandown Summer Recreation group took to the beach at Phillips Pond on Friday, July 20, for its annual luau, where campers were able to participate in a variety of games. Above, Emily Beaudet, 10, tries to outlast her challengers during the hula hoop competition. More photos on page 8.
Photo by Chris Paul

Resolution Sought on Phillips Pond Estates Driveway Access

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – Though the planning board is convinced that as part of the subdivision plan for Phillips Pond Estates, an access driveway to the pond must be built for fire protection, that has not occurred, and the board is looking for ways to enforce the stipulation.

The property's approval was initially given to Peter Holmes. The property was eventually taken over by the bank and then purchased by JH Chase Co., one of developer Bob Villella's companies.

The access driveway was a condition of approval for the subdivision but the work and a necessary easement through Holmes' property for the driveway

was never granted, and the town didn't follow up with the matter until recently. According to the planning board, Holmes was supposed to have granted deed access across his property but is unwilling to do so now.

Villella met with the board in June to discuss the matter, stating that while he was willing to put in the

continued on page 2

Donations Sought for Restoration Work at Hampstead Church

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Hampstead Congregational Church has contracted with Joe McSwain of Mid Maine Restoration to repair the church steeple, then paint both the steeple and the

original church building.

Members of the church have formed a committee to do fundraising to defray the cost of the repairs and the painting. Heading the committee is Martha Pond, who said the church budget doesn't have the money for this work but the work

needs to be done to maintain the structural integrity of the building. As a result, the committee is working hard to raise the necessary funding to cover the cost of getting the work done, made more vital because the church is one of the iconic buildings on Main Street.

While working on the church steeple, McSwain will be repairing the "cake tiers" and corner buttresses at the belfry deck level of the steeple. This work entails replacing rotted wood, then sealing and repainting. The repair work is just below the top set of windows.

In addition, he will be painting the steeple and bel-

fry, as well as the sanctuary front and Timberlane Road side.

The total cost for steeple restoration and painting is approximately \$30,000.

"None of the funds are budgeted, as this is major restoration work, so all money will need to be raised through donations," Pond said. "Our fund-raising appeal is just beginning and church members have given donations, and we are hopeful that members of the community will respond to the obvious need."

"Restoration of the church facade to its traditional appearance as the old New England church in the center of town is an impor-

tant part of the appearance of Hampstead," she added. "It is a recognizable landmark, and was one of the four buildings chosen to represent Hampstead during the 250th celebration in 1999."

Pond noted the church was established in 1752, with the current building dating from 1861.

"The historic nature of the church, and its prominent role as one of the iconic buildings in Hampstead, functioning as one of the gateways to the town, highlight the importance of the restoration efforts," she said. "The church serves as a home or meeting place to many community organiza-

tions, and is a part of the fabric of our small New Hampshire town. The church is a beautiful historic building, part of a beautiful downtown, and we can't wait to see it restored to its previous state."

Many Hampstead residents consider the Hampstead Congregational Church to be "their" church, and the hope of the committee is that they will want to contribute to its restoration.

Checks can be sent to Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St. P.O. Box 158, Hampstead, NH 03841, with "Steeple Fund" in the memo. All donations are tax-deductible.



Restoration and painting work are planned for the Hampstead Congregational Church.

Photo by Penny Williams

Phillips Pond

continued from page 1

gravel access driveway, he needed permission from Holmes to do so. He said that after weeks of trying to get in contact with him, he was eventually told that access would not be granted.

Villella said that when he discussed the matter with then fire chief Irving Bassett, he agreed to widen a current driveway and install a gravel pad beside the pond for the fire trucks. "I don't mind doing that," said Villella.

The planning board's

Matt Russell, who raised the matter at the board's June 19 meeting, said the Aug. 17, 2006 Notice of Decision indicates that a final approval letter needed to be received from the Sandown Fire Department, and on Oct. 12, 2006, a letter was received from then chief Bassett stating that "a graveled access road to Phillip's Pond would be acceptable... Therefore a cistern or other means of water supply will not be required."

Russell argued that if the access road is not feasible, the alternate, as inferred in the letter, would be a cis-

tern.

If a cistern is instead required, Villella said he was not solely responsible for it. Villella bought 20 lots from the bank and agreed to finish the road. He said that in the next month or two, he'd have only one lot left and it wasn't feasible to go through the approval process in order to change the original plans to install a cistern.

According to discussions at the July 17 meeting, town engineer Steve Keach has informed the board that as the fire protection and easement were part of the original conditions of approval, despite losing the property, Holmes is still held to the easement agreement.

According to the plan-

ning board, Holmes has contacted his lawyer.

Board members present last week - chair Mark Traeger, Ed Mencis, Ernie Brown and Russell - said they would send a letter to Holmes stating that from their lawyer's perspective, the town was in the right and seeks to resolve the issue outside of the courts.

Mencis said that if the matter goes to court, the town will likely win and have its legal costs paid, but it would be better for all parties to avoid that step. Mencis said an open dialogue was needed.

"We're not trying to hurt anybody, we're just trying to get this done," said Mencis, adding that a court battle could drag the issue out for a year or more.

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Seven Suspicious Fires in One Day at Wason Pond

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Seven fires were set on Friday at the Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Area, and the fire department suspects that the goal of the arsonist was to start a large blaze on the community-owned land.

A fire was set Friday morning, but most of the blazes sprang up that night. The busy summer spot was filled with people at the time, some of whom spotted the first fire and called

the fire department.

According to fire chief Rich Antoine, as the department was finding the first fire of the night, more calls were coming in alerting them to fires on other portions of the land and firefighters were spotting even more blazes.

Antoine is currently investigating the fires, suspected to be arson. He said a suspect has been identified and it is likely that an announcement of that person's identity will be made in coming weeks.

Antoine is a certified fire

inspector but also has citation authority.

The fires were all between approximately two feet and 12 feet in diameter when the firefighters came upon them. Antoine said the size was an indication of how long they'd been burning.

The fires consumed brush and small portions of the woods but nothing substantial was burned, and the department had them under control relatively quickly.

It is suspected that all of the Friday night fires were

started in succession.

The department used its forestry utility vehicle and skid unit to attend to the fires.

Some of the fires appeared to have been set so as not to be seen easily, but swimmers and others in the area spotted the other blazes as well as suspicious activity leading up to them.

The Chester police helped with interrogations, said Antoine.

Increasing the severity of the offense is the fact that the day was deemed level four (out of five) in fire

danger, and outside burning of any kind was not permitted.

According to the Forest Fire Danger Rating System, level four means that: Fires start easily from all causes and immediately after ignition, spread rapidly and increase quickly in intensity. Spot fires are a constant danger. Fires burning in light fuels may quickly develop high-intensity characteristics - such as long-distance spotting - and fire whirlwinds, when they burn into heavier fuels. Direct attack at the head of

such fires is rarely possible after they have been burning more than a few minutes.

The police have also had reason this summer to keep an eye on Wason Pond. The caretaker's cabin was burglarized in May and again in June, along with the community center.

Police chief Bill Burke said that since those break-ins, the area has been quiet, but his officers are keeping a close eye on it and are still removing people from the area at night.

Chester Town Fair - Who Will Organize It This Year?

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – The recreation commission informed the board of selectmen that it had plans to help organize the town fair this year, but before the July 12 meeting was over, that desire to help out was mostly quenched.

Commission member Beth Swanson said that this year the commission wanted to take a more active role in organizing the fair, in part to bring it back to a more town-propelled event with more community involvement. But part of its ability to help out was predicated on moving the date of the event by a week.

Starting in 2010, no community group or individual was willing to take on the organization of the annual town fair, and when it looked as if the event were going to fall by the wayside, resident Sara Eno stepped in. She used the event as a springboard for starting an event planning company, but always spoke

about the importance of the event not for personal gain but for community benefit. Eno ran the fair in 2010 and 2011.

When he heard of Recreation's plans to change the date of the fair, selectman Mike Weider was adamant that it remain, as it historically has been, on the second Saturday of September. This year that date would fall on Sept. 8, but the commission was looking at Sept. 15 instead.

According to recreation coordinator Sharon Mulrennan, the commission was looking to change the date so that all members could be available to help out.

The commission had previously spoken with police and fire to make sure the date change was fine with them and that they'd

have resources available.

On July 12, Weider recalled a discussion that the board of selectmen had in 2010 about whether to move the date. That year the second Saturday fell on Sept. 11. He remembered it as a long discussion but with a clear decision at the end: it wasn't appropriate to change the date. In his argument, Weider said it was important for people to have continuity in the date and that people from out of town may use that weekend to come back and visit.

Before the recreation commission left the meeting, member Ed Karjala said that if Weider were adamant on sticking to the second Saturday, the board may "want to start looking for significant resources to make that happen."

Weider said that would be fine.

No other selectmen spoke about the date change.

Since then, Mulrennan has said it is unlikely the recreation commission will organize the fair this year.

Planned for Sept. 8 are the town's fireworks and the dedication of the fire station

to beloved town resident Red Dolloff. Former fire chief Dolloff died in May of 2011. The dedication will take place in the morning, to be followed by an open house.

Fire chief Rich Antoine said he had been approached by the recreation commission on the date

change before the group met with the selectmen and he had no issue with it. Antoine said that prior to the meeting, the tentative date for the department's side of things was the 15th, but since then he has had to lock in the fireworks and other plans and has done so for the 8th.

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Editorial

An Ounce of Prevention

With boating season well under way, state officials are regularly issuing warnings and reminders to boaters to pay close attention to what they might be bringing into the water.

Summers in New Hampshire now demand a new way to look at hitchhiking and littering - boats, trailers, motors, fishing equipment, bait buckets, and diving gear can easily drag along into the water exotic aquatic weeds, leaving an infested lake in their wake.

This is far from a case of Big Government monitoring our recreational activities. Once an invasive weed like milfoil or fanwort gets into a lake or other body of water, it causes a wealth of problems. With no natural predators to keep them in check, the plants grow quickly to dominate native plants, fish, aquatic insects and other aquatic life. And what that translates into is impaired water quality and reduced shorefront property values.

Our bigger lakes have Weed Watcher and Lake Host programs to keep an eye out for unwelcome "travelers" on boating equipment. Smaller lakes have to depend on regular users to voluntarily monitor lake quality and send any suspicious weeds off to the state for a check. And remember, plants that may only be 2 or 3 inches in size can grow to wreak havoc in our lakes.

This month, Shop Pond in Hampstead was treated for the invasive fanwort. Big Island Pond requires regular effort to deal with its milfoil infestation. And the state records 78 of its water bodies - 67 lakes and ponds, 11 river systems - infested with invasive plants, a number that has been growing.

Boats coming from other areas have always been a potential problem to our waters, but with the warmer temperatures we've been experiencing in recent years, and this winter's early ice out, exotic aquatics are growing even more rapidly. And cutbacks in state funding put more of the burden on recreational boaters to check for invasives.

If you live on a lake, or take your boat out regularly, this message is for you. If you enjoy a morning or evening kayak or canoe ride, pay attention to the plants in the water as well as to the scenery and birdlife you are paddling out to enjoy. If you've had your boat in another body of water, examine it carefully before returning to your home lake. Encourage your fellow boaters to do the same.

Once an invasive gets into the lake, it's too late. Prevention is the name of the game here, and it's the job of each one of us to preserve the quality of the lakes we love.

Letters

Prescott for State Senate

To the editor:

As the Deputy Fire Chief in Sandown (and, for 25 years, Sandown's Fire Chief), I have had the opportunity to meet various people who have run and held office. Many have been good, others not so much. However, only a few stand out. State Sen. Russell Prescott is one of those people, and I am happy to endorse him for his re-election.

I have known Russell for a long time, and have seen him in action at the State House. He is committed to fiscal responsibility, constituent service, and, most importantly, making sure the people of his district and the state are employed. He has worked with various state and local groups to bring job fairs to the district, and he has focused his efforts on streamlining regulations that will help small businesses.

Russell is a small business owner in Exeter, and if you have been on any of the major routes around here, you have probably seen his signs on the properties of fellow small business owners. They understand that our state thrives when we give people the opportunity to expand their companies, hire their fellow citizens and contribute to the economy. They know Russell is a friend of small-business and taxpayers alike.

Recently, the state conducted its redistricting process, which the Constitution requires us to do every 10 years. Russell's State Senate district - District 23 - now includes Sandown. I hope you can join me and vote to re-elect Russell Prescott to the State Senate.

Irving Bassett
Sandown

'Trust but Verify'

To the editor:

Last week's Editorial expressed some very important ideas and offered excellent advice on how to decide who you will vote for in the upcoming elections. I might encapsulate that advice in a simple statement that says, "Do your homework on the candidates and take the act of voting very, very seriously." I wholeheartedly agree with that advice.

We were urged to seek the truth in making those decisions, and therein lies our challenge. At no time in our nation's history has so much information been available to anyone with a keyboard and internet connection.

I vaguely remember hearing the late Bart Giamatti (former Yale University President and Commissioner of Major League Baseball) say that a single issue of a modern newspaper contains more information than a person living in the 14th century would have been exposed to in a lifetime. That statement offers a dramatic illustration of changes in communication and makes me wonder how he might describe the amount of information now available to almost anyone.

I think he might be enthralled not only by the volume of information, but also the accessibility of largely unfiltered and complex details. Perhaps he would fear the increased potential for misrepresentation in an age when the established media or the powerful in government and industry no longer exert nearly exclusive control over the broad dissemination of information and ideas.

However, I think it is more likely he would celebrate it as an expansion of freedom, even while wincing at the shamelessness of the lies propagated by arguably unscrupulous, hyper-partisan activists. For example, think of those ubiquitous and offensive chain emails often forwarded by frightened and gullible recipients. They are invariably debunked by credible sources, but only after damage has been done.

So how do you find the truth in all this information? I think the answer is twofold. First, you must be willing to work even harder to discern the truth than you would have in the days when your only sources were the daily newspapers, TV news programs and friends.

As we sift through mountains of information, the internet has more or less made us all de facto amateur editors, and we need to take that responsibility as seriously as the editor of this paper does. That includes careful consideration of opinions offered by credible people who don't share your views.

And second, I like to invoke one of President Reagan's favorite expressions, "Trust but verify." This simple advice suits the full spectrum of ideologies and serves to inoculate voters against the clanging gong of negative political ads and their half-truths and outright falsehoods. Enhancing our ability to understand the differences between fiction and truth is a good first step toward creating a political environment based on hope and compassion instead of fear and anger.

Andrew Weir
Hampstead

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Tri-Town Times

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Chester Selectmen Say Child Protective Ordinance Not in Town's Scope

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – A resident has petitioned the board of selectmen for a meeting to discuss an ordinance that he said would help protect the children of the town from sexual predators.

Robert Brown has been urging local public officials to do more to protect children ever since resident and registered sex offender Gary Britton was arrested for failing to make his annual report to the Chester police as a sex offender. Subsequently, alleged child pornography was discovered in Britton's home, and Britton has been charged with aggra-

vated felonious sexual assault with a female under 13 years of age and with Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

Brown's latest move was to ask the selectmen for an ordinance in an effort to keep such people away from kids. His request asks for the board "to explore the elements necessary to adopt a protective criminal local ordinance barring, compelling and notifying any and all registered sex offenders from entering the limits and confines of any public "Park and/or Recreation" facility by any definition and/or attending any public event deemed by law enforcement as a "potential-

ly child-intensive event."

Brown said sex offenders pose a great risk to public safety but perfect monitoring of such individuals is impossible. "Recent and long-historic events surrounding offenders throughout the nation proves a recidivism rate and methodology that obviously leads them to their targeted, intended victims. Even within Chester, we recently experienced one case of a repeat and aggressive registered offender of children re-offend on a grand scale. Additionally, said offender had actual, ample and unrestricted access to Chester's parks and recreation properties," he said.

After discussing the

matter at their July 12 meeting, the selectmen decided that while everyone wanted to ensure the safety of children, such an initiative was beyond their scope.

Selectman Jack Cannon said that after doing some research into the matter and finding that similar laws were challenged on constitutional grounds, he thinks the effort is beyond the board's competency and urged Brown to contact either the county or state to push for such a rule.

"Frankly, I think that's where this discussion needs to take place," said Cannon.

A letter from the selectmen to Brown states, "Upon receipt, we contacted appro-

priate experts; and our determination is that if you wish to pursue going forward with this request, you need to contact the County Attorney, the State Attorney General, or your legislative Representative, as this is beyond the scope of our capabilities."

In a letter in response, Brown wrote, "As far as I know, without any exception, municipal ordinances are created and enforced within the city or township in any state. State legislature has no jurisdiction to impose a municipal ordinance onto Chester. County Attorney does not create municipal code under any circumstances, nor does the New Hampshire Attorney

General.

"I am fully disillusioned with the Chester BOS's lack of interest in a child protective ordinance, given recent local and statewide crimes," he added. "I will however hold to your requests and correspond with all three suggested entities advising them of your reactions, and that they ought to have Chester's child safety ordinances in their agenda future. I will additionally notify them that the Chester BOS does not have the power or purview to create a well-established model of proactive child protection."

Brown has since contacted County Attorney Jim Reams on the matter.

St. Anne's 31st Annual Summerfest Arrives Saturday

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - St. Anne's 31st annual Summerfest arrives Saturday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 26 Emerson Ave.

This year's Summerfest features the 20th Lakes Race and Fun Walk, part of the Grand Prix Race Series for 2012. The Lakes Race

includes a certified 5 mile road race and a 5K fun walk. Registration for the Lakes Race and Fun Walk begins at 7:30 a.m., and both events begin at 9 a.m.

Throughout the day, free live entertainment, crafters and artisans, a car show, emergency vehicles on display, cash and gift raffles, gift basket raffles, a silent auction, a bake sale, a bak-

ing contest, hot food and cold treats, bounce tents, face painting, and games for all ages are featured.

At 8:30 a.m., festivities begin with a procession from the bandstand to the statue of St. Anne in front of the church, with everyone invited to join in. The field then opens for games and crafters.

For Summerfest's first Baking Contest, entries can be

dropped off between 11 and 11:45 a.m. for any or all of the four categories: apple pie, cookies, yeast bread, and cupcakes, at a charge of \$5 per entry. Ribbons will be awarded for the top three in each category. Judging begins at noon.

A Cruisin' Car Show will be held in St. Anne's parking lot from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hampstead emergency vehicles will also be on display

and available for touring from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

A silent auction on the field will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. And a gift basket raffle from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. features four that are valued over \$100, with others valued from \$50 to 75.

Free family games will run from 11 a.m. to noon, and free concerts begin with the Hampstead Dance Academy dancers taking the stage at noon. They will be followed by the Wilming-

ton, Mass.-based Merrimack Valley Chorus from 1 to 2 p.m., and students of Daley's Martial Arts Academy from 2 to 3 p.m.

Summerfest admission and parking are free and handicap accessible. To register online for the race, download a schedule of events, or for general information, visit www.saintannechurchnh.org and click on "Summerfest" at the top. Contact Cheryl Hess at 329-6465 with questions.

Hampstead Police Officer Returned to Patrol

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Hampstead Police Officer Kathleen Boulter, who was assigned to desk duty after a domestic altercation while the matter was investigated by the New Hampshire State Police, has been cleared of

any wrongdoing and was returned to full-time patrol duty.

Hampstead Police Lt. John Frazier said, "I can confirm the fact I put her back on shift on July 15. I know they charged her assailant and arrested him on July 13."

Boulter had been placed

on Administrative Suspension while State Police and the Attorney General's Office investigated a domestic incident that occurred on Main Street in Hampstead early on the morning of May 21.

At that time, Frazier confirmed that Boulter was on paid leave following a

domestic incident. He said he and Chief Joe Beaudoin placed Boulter on administrative leave during the investigation, which was handled by the State Police because Boulter is a Hampstead police officer.

State Police did not return calls regarding the July 13 arrest.

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Planning Board Disagrees About Sustainable Communities Plan

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – Disagreement among planning board members about whether to take part in a regional planning initiative rose up during last week's planning board and selectmen meetings.

The Sustainable Communities Initiative is organized in the area by the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) as part of a statewide project called A Granite State Future. It's an effort, currently in its early stages, meant to foster communication among communities that may be impacted by each others' planning decisions. Sandown has been asked for two volunteers to serve on a regional board.

The stated objectives of the project are to: "Protect New Hampshire's unique beauty and character; Identify local assets that are important to the lasting prosperity of our communities, regions and State; Capitalize on and incorporate shared values and opportunities included in existing plans and research; Plan for public infrastructure investment through an open and transparent process; Direct

capital investments toward locally identified needs; and Conserve our natural, social and financial resources."

According to planning groups, the emphasis for the 3-year-long program is on community input and creating an integrated approach to planning, with an eye to economic vitality and protecting the natural, social and cultural resources of the state.

Where the funding is coming from seems to be the focus of some residents' concerns: the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Though the people heading the project argue that other than basic oversight for appropriate use of grant money, the federal government has no authority to dictate local planning efforts because of the initiative, some residents have a different outlook.

New Hampshire received a \$3.37 million grant to develop comprehensive and coordinated regional plans in each of the state's nine regional planning areas.

Planning board member Matt Russell raised his concerns at the group's July 16 meeting. He had problems with the large expenditure

from the federal government that makes the program possible and because of that spending, with what strings might be attached. Russell didn't want to see the town get into something without understanding its full scope.

He added that the results of a recent grant program facilitated by HUD gave him further reason for concern. Though Sandown's application for a \$13,327 grant to work on the land use chapter of the town's master plan was denied, 22 of 33 other grants were awarded. Russell cited funding that he said had nothing to do with planning and more to do with social engineering, and pointed to the Healthy Eating and Active Living Organization, Family Assistance Advisory Council, the Conservation Law Foundation and other state charitable organizations that received funding.

Russell referred to the program as a federally funded money grab, and with the national debt, didn't see a need for Sandown to participate.

Member Ed Mencis echoed Russell's concerns.

During last week's selectmen meeting, selectman Brenda Copp also raised concerns about the program. She said that if the town joined, it may get into a situation where it would

be told what to do and be required to zone for things like low income housing or have other plans dictated.

Some opponents have connected the initiative to "Agenda 21," a 1992 United Nations report on policies on settlement patterns, poverty and the environment that involved 178 governments. Agenda 21, according to the American Planning Association, is a non-legally binding set of ideas and recommendations to countries, especially developing nations, in support of sustainability and environmental responsibility as part of efforts to combat poverty.

Persons heading the program state there is no connection between the allegation and the reality of the local program. Planners say the practice of planning is an inherently local activity, constrained by local and state law, and any federal involvement in this recent initiative is limited and without mandates.

Planning Board Chair Mark Traeger attempted to mitigate concerns by handing out information on Windham, which had a few residents with similar concerns. After learning more about it, the selectmen were comfortable enough to join. Traeger argued that the initiative was moving forward with or without Sandown's

participation and that a wiser move would be to take part and therefore have a say if portions of it don't fit with Sandown's desires.

He lauded the program for its ability to take a bigger picture look at how communities interact, noting that what happens in Seabrook, for example, has an impact on people in Sandown because of commuting or recreation.

Traeger attempted to explain the process and how the federal government can't tell Sandown what to do, but pointed to other federal funding, such as this year's Federal Emergency Management Agency grant to fix the culvert on Wells Village Road, as beneficial projects, despite the source of the funds.

"There is no mechanism within the HUD program to force any town in the state of New Hampshire to do anything they don't want to do," said Traeger. "At the end of the day, we can be a part of the steering committee. Or we can let someone else do it for us."

Cliff Sinnott with RPC said the initiative offers a great opportunity to create an updated regional plan, something RPC has been doing piecemeal for many years because the funding to do an overhaul wasn't available. He said the plan is just an extension of what plan-

ning commissions have been doing for decades: initiating research on land use, compiling that information and making suggestions for best practices from that data.

Sinnott has been spending much of his time lately fighting what he termed completely unfounded accusations about the project and what it entails. He said some concerned citizen opposition to the plan is confusing and often couched in information that is just plain wrong.

"This is being portrayed as something radically new or different, and it's not... We're not doing anything different than we've done for years and years," said Sinnott, adding that the role of the planning commission is to research, give advice and suggest alternatives for land use that towns can do with as they wish.

He also noted that he knew of no evidence that would indicate the regional plan was anything but advisory. "We have no authority. We're just here to be helpful," Sinnott said.

"I view this as a wonderful opportunity to help out our communities, but it's being turned into a divisive thing and it just shouldn't be. It's a chance to do some good planning, which (towns) can use or not use," said Sinnott.

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Ground Beef Sold at Hannaford's is Recalled

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announced Monday that Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation is recalling 29,339 pounds of fresh ground beef products that may be contaminated with the bacteria *Salmonella* Enteritidis.

The contaminated product was shipped to New Hampshire and distributed through Hannaford supermarkets.

Three cases of salmonellosis have been identified in New Hampshire residents related to this product.

The ground beef was processed May 25, so the

"use by" date has passed, but if anyone still has it in the freezer, it should be discarded.

The products subject to recall were sold wholesale for further processing in 14-pound packages labeled "Grnd Beef Fine 85/15%." Consumers who purchased ground beef from Hannaford with a Hannaford label 85/15 percent, labeled with a sell by date from May 25-28, should discard it.

"Contaminated food is always concerning," said Dr. José Montero, state public health director. "Since we cannot always know if a food is contaminated or not, it is

very important that it be handled correctly. All ground beef should be cooked until the internal temperature is 160 degrees Fahrenheit or greater using a food thermometer. People should take care not to cross-contaminate while cooking either, which means make sure to wash hands often, wash utensils that come in contact with raw meats or something else before using, and make sure meat juices do not come in contact with other foods."

Eating food contaminated with *Salmonella* can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial food-borne illnesses. *Salmonella*

infections can be life-threatening, especially to those with weakened immune systems, such as infants, seniors, and people with HIV infection or who are undergoing chemotherapy. The most common manifestations of salmonellosis are diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and fever within 6 to 72 hours. Additional symptoms may be chills, headache, nausea, and vomiting that can last up to seven days.

Recommendations to prevent salmonellosis include:

- Wash hands with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds before and after handling raw meat and poultry.

Also wash cutting boards, dishes, and utensils with hot, soapy water. Clean up spills right away.

- Keep raw meat, fish, and poultry away from other food that will not be cooked. Use separate cutting boards for raw meat, poultry, and egg products and cooked foods.

- Cook raw meat and poultry to safe internal temperatures before eating. The safe internal temperature for ground meat such as beef and pork is 160 degrees F and 165 degrees F for poultry, as determined with a food thermometer.

- Refrigerate raw meat and poultry within two hours

after purchase (one hour if temperatures exceed 90 degrees F). Refrigerate cooked meat and poultry within two hours after cooking.

Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation requests consumers who may have the contaminated products return them to the store where they were purchased. For questions about the recall, call Cargill's consumer relations toll free telephone number at 1-888-812-1646. Individuals concerned about illness should contact a health care provider.

For a list of recalled products, visit: www.fsis.usda.gov/FSIS/Recalls/.

Waterfront/Water Access Property Assessment Review Continues

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD - Scott Marsh and Joe Lessard of Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI), Hampstead town assessors, have completed a review and analysis of Hampstead properties with water access and with direct water frontage to determine if the assessment ratios require adjustment.

Marsh gave the report to the Board of Selectmen Thursday evening, July 19.

Marsh said he had examined all the available market data, and while there was enough to make a determination about whether changes in water access properties and properties with direct water frontage need to be made, he would be more comfortable with more market data.

"In general, the assessments on water access properties are in line with the Town's assessment ratio and no adjustment is needed," Marsh said. "However, the assessments on waterfront property with direct water frontage are lower than the Town's assessment ratio and have been for the last three years, although the gap is narrowing."

He told the board he had limited market data for waterfront properties on Big Island Pond and Sunset Lake/Wash Pond, and none for Angle Pond. Based on the market data, he said, it appeared assessment adjust-

ments would be higher on Big Island Pond properties than Sunset Lake/Wash Pond properties.

"To make any substantial assessment change, I like to have at least 10 percent sales for market data and I don't have quite that at this point, but I do have enough market data to sup-

port the need for an adjustment," he said.

He asked the board whether it wanted him to proceed with the process of determining the waterfront property assessment adjustments for the December tax bill or to wait, as he recommended, for the first tax billing in 2013. Waiting

would allow time for additional market data to be collected and would give the entire year to deal with abatements and requests for review of adjusted assessments.

Selectwoman Priscilla Lindquist said, "I would rather wait until next year, since there are a limited amount of sales. Then we

would have the whole year to make adjustments."

Chairman Sean Murphy asked when the next full town assessment will take place; Marsh said that would be in 2014.

Selectman Rick Hartung made a motion to continue with the assessment review and analysis process for water-

front properties, with a target of spring 2013, and the board voted unanimously in favor. Marsh said he would continue the analysis and review process of the properties with direct water frontage and would begin notifying homeowners early in 2013 about any adjusted assessments.



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BEACH BASH Sandown Summer Recreation campers were at Phillips Pond on Friday, July 19, for their annual luau. Above, Brent Seavy, 10, goes low in limbo; center, Danielle Hyde, 9, came dressed for the party as she passes under the limbo pole; and right, Riley Mitchell, 10 does her best to outlast Seavy during the hula hoop competition.

Photos by Chris Paul



Shop Pond Appears Better After Fanwort Treatment

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD — Shop Pond has been treated for the invasive fanwort and it is looking better - and it began to look better within hours, said Conservation Commission Chairman Tim Lovell, who watched the entire treatment event.

"They put in a boat, loaded a 50 gallon drum and filled it with pond water and added 10 pounds of

chemical, then went out and circled and crisscrossed the pond, spraying that 50 gallons into the pond," said Lovell. "The whole process probably took half an hour but within hours, you could see the weeds starting to disappear."

Conservation Commission member Paul Carideo said he plans to put his kayak in the pond to get a better look and see if the weed kill is as good as it appears to be. The lily pads

are still in place but the fanwort appears to have been rooted out.

In other business:

- The purchase of the Lew property is continuing. A few snags were hit in the deed but these problems have been ironed out and it is expected to close in the near future. As a result of the sale of the Lew property, an abutter, Joan Emmert, who owns 32 acres, has contacted the commission and is interested in selling the commission 22 acres of the parcel, nearest Great Island Pond. Acquisition of this land would provide connected conservation acreage, including a stream, and the commission voted to have

Lovell move ahead with negotiations with Emmert.

The following day, Lovell said, "The owner accepted our offer of \$65,500, and we will have a public meeting at the next date of the Aug. 15 (meeting) at 7:30 p.m. We voted in a \$65,000 number but then I did my math over and I was short \$500, so we need to vote that number in again before the public meeting starts. I think this is a big deal for Big Island Pond - this property with the Lew property will shield that entire side of the lake from additional building and protect one of the water sources that flow through that side."

• Phil Auger of South-

east Land Trust and Jill Senter of the Plaistow Conservation Commission described their efforts to identify Plaistow's conservation parcels, clear up deed issues on the parcels and place them in a conservation easement with the Southeast Land Trust. At issue with Hampstead is a small parcel of less than an acre that Hampstead owns but is in Plaistow. Eventually, Auger said, the hope is to have the town lines properly drawn through their conservation lands and the towns take ownership of their own land, but this will be a year to two-year process. He and Senter were asking only that Hampstead be willing to work with them in deed identification and clarification and town line corrections.

The commission said it would be willing to cooperate except in the instance

that a parcel in question had been given to the town and had specific rules or requests relating to the parcel.

- Carideo told the commission he had requested the Depot Development people come before the commission and make a presentation. He said he has some serious concerns about its drainage and erosion plan and thought it could be improved.

"There's a wetland there and it is something we should be looking at," he said.

- He also said he wanted to get an electronic copy of the Land Use chapter of the Master Plan to compare the maps in it to those the commission has.

"We want the maps to be saying the same things," he said, adding he thought there might be some differences that would need to be corrected.

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FARM FRESH Shoppers at the newly established Farmers Market in Hampstead are getting more to choose from every week. With 10 vendors last weekend and more on their way, the market is starting out strong. Above, Mary and Nancy Giroux pick out some fresh veggies from ME Garden Goods farmer Maria Kuhn and her son Evan. At right, from left, Maya Levine, Joslyn Tarricone, Caroline Diamond and Ilan Levine have tough choices to make trying to decide on the flavor of glazed popcorn at the Armstrong Glazed Popcorn booth. *Photos by Chris Paul*



Chester

continued from page 1

the old system's costly repairs, the new system has an approximately five-year payback.

All new strobes, lights, pull down stations and wiring for the system have been installed.

The school worked with fire chief Rich Antoine to make sure everything was up to code and appropriate for the building.

The overhaul of the phone system is the result of its routine failing. The system would often freeze so that no calls could come into the building or go out until it was rebooted. While teachers would start getting and making calls with their cell phones if necessary, it was a safety concern for the school community that at any time they could become unreachable. The cost of the upgrade is about \$35,000.

The kindergarten has been mostly moved from the portable classrooms behind the library to two rooms inside the school, where the program resided initially before enrollment rose beyond the space's capacity.

Though the portables housed two kindergarten classes well, said Gaylord, administration had some concerns about the space. During fire drills, the youngest students in the school would file out back, to a different place than the rest of the kids. They were also too close to the fire lane, said Gaylord. And the space was cramped, as the kids had to stay away from the propane tank and pump house.

Now the kids will file out with the rest of the school. In addition, the two new classrooms each have a bathroom, whereas the portables had one to share. A temporary wall had to be taken down to change one of the rooms back into a full-size classroom.

The superintendent, executive assistant, financial manager and bookkeeper will now use the portables for offices, and to make the space usable, furniture and portable walls have been shifted. There is space for one or two more people in the new offices.

The board recently made a commitment to continue to lease the portable classrooms for three years with

the potential for a \$1 buyout at the end of that period. The structures were erected when the state mandated public kindergarten programs and were paid for predominantly with state education building aid.

The entrances to the school have also been improved this summer. The main foyer has gone from carpet to non-skid tile, along with the bus entrance for the middle level students. It will save money in the long run, said Gaylord, due to ease of care and cleaning. Carpet runners will continue to lead into the school.

Also being replaced are all of the faucets throughout the school, toilet and urinal flushers and water bubblers.

Though work has not started yet, the school is also hoping to improve the main entrance by replacing the current window into the main office with a door for safety purposes. This way, instead of getting buzzed into the school before signing in, visitors will enter the main office, sign in and then enter the school proper. Last year, when front office secretary Beth Howard left her long-held place at the window, the district did not fill

her position. Since then visitors are buzzed into the school and are asked to enter the office before heading into the school, but there's no safeguard to prevent someone from not checking in.

The projects are part of the school's capital improvement plan, and now that they're done, or nearly done, only a couple of outstanding facilities projects remain for the coming years. The roof over the cafeteria and gym will need work, as well as the air handlers over those areas. The underground propane tank may also have to be removed. Gaylord said he has suggestions for accomplishing those projects that he will soon present to the

board.

Gaylord gave much credit to facilities manager Don Ennis, his crew, as well as contractors for the quality work being completed this summer.

"We've really taken a look at the interior of the building and done a really fine job," said Gaylord, who has previously noted the importance of not only having quality programs within the school but also quality facilities within which to conduct those programs.

School board chair Royal Richardson said he was gratified to take care of two critical safety issues this year, as both the phone and fire systems were deemed end of life. He added that the board

had been agonizing over how best to address the costly problems, and were pleased that the surplus arose this year.

"The opinion of this Board is that an investment of surplus monies in the infrastructure of Chester Academy is a sound investment. While this expenditure was larger than any that we have made in the past, it is also a significant upgrade of the infrastructure addressing two very significant problems, which will benefit the School District and ensure the integrity and safety of our school for many years to come, with no additional impact to the taxpayers in the upcoming budget cycle," said Richardson.

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Hampstead Man Co-Captains American Team at Quidditch Olympics

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – For Harry Potter fans, Quidditch has a familiar ring. Everyone else may wonder what Quidditch is. The answer is that it's a game played by wizards and witches in the world created by British author J.K. Rowling for the Harry Potter novels.

Quidditch matches are played between two teams of seven players riding flying broomsticks, using four balls and six elevated ring-shaped goals, three on each side of the Quidditch pitch. The sport has been adapted for the real world under the name of "Muggle Quidditch" or simply "Quidditch." In the United States, teams from more than 200 colleges are affiliated with the International Quidditch Association.

Hampstead's Zach D'Am-

ico is one such college Quidditch player. He participated in the recent Quidditch Olympic Expedition in Oxford, England and was the co-captain of the champion United States team. Five countries participated in the event - Australia, Canada, England, France and the U.S. The event was part of the Olympic torch relay celebration, held as the official torch passed through Oxford.

Goal of the tournament was to present the sport of quidditch to a global audience, and to enhance international relations and pride among the players and fans.

D'Amico started playing quidditch in his freshman year at Villanova University in the fall of 2009. Today, at age 21, he is the Villanova Quidditch team captain. He is a rising senior majoring in Political Science and Criminal Justice, and plans



Zach D'Amico of Hampstead, a rising senior at Villanova University, is pictured during the Quidditch Olympic Expedition in Oxford, England. The USA Team, which he co-captained, won.

Courtesy photo

to apply to law schools this fall.

D'Amico's mother said

one of the best things about his participation in the Quidditch Olympic Expedi-

tion was making friends from all over the world, as most of the quidditch teams stayed at the same place in Oxford.

D'Amico plays quidditch whenever he can find a game and was recently in Boston playing with friends at Emerson College.

"For me, the opportunity to compete in the International Quidditch Association Summer Games as a part of Team USA was the culmination of my quidditch career," he said. "I have worked hard the last few years to become the best player I could, and this was a greater reward than I ever could have imagined. More than that, however, it was an opportunity to spread quidditch around the globe. The sport has exploded in the United States, but has yet to gain an international following or receive any substantial

press coverage. Competing against five other countries helped us in achieving both of those goals.

"As captain, I had the honor of bringing the team together from just a group of great players, and turning us into a team and a family," he added. "Reaching out and meeting players from around the world was an experience I will never forget, and the connections I made will last a lifetime."

The American team was made up of both men and women from colleges across the United States: from Boston University, Emerson College, UCLA, USC, the universities of Texas, Maryland, and Florida, Louisiana State, Villanova, Penn State, Arizona State, Ball State, Bowling Green State, South Florida, Rochester, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, Texas A&M, and Ringling College of Art and Design.

Pinkerton Student a State Delegate to Boys Nation

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – When Patrick Doolittle found out he was selected for Boys State, he was pleased. "I thought, 'Here's another thing for my resume.'"

But the week at Rivier College was life-changing for him, he said. "It makes me so excited about the process of government, your civic duty, and more. It was a nice surprise."

The rising senior from Hampstead will take another "incredible experience"



Patrick Doolittle

with him into his last year of high school: he was chosen as one of two New Hampshire delegates to

Boys Nation, happening this week in Washington, D.C.

Boys State is a week-long "mock government" exercise sponsored by the American Legion, Doolittle said. The young men, selected at the end of their junior year, draft bills, pass laws and run for office. Every boy came with a bill he wanted to see passed.

Doolittle's bill was on education and the controversial subject of merit pay for teachers. "It was on how to create a criteria to judge how good a teacher is, so their salary would reflect

their performance in the classroom," he said. Others brought bills ranging from gun control and abortion to street signs.

The 80 students split up into municipalities, created a "House" and a "Senate," and elected leadership.

Doolittle found himself as one of 12 finalists for Boys Nation. He underwent a first-level interview, talking about the two issues he thinks are most important to New Hampshire, and made the cut for the final six. His interview for the final cut was at 12:30 a.m., he said, and he had to answer open-ended questions on the issues on the national level he cared most about. His selection for Boys Nation was announced at the graduation ceremonies.

The Boys Nation pro-

gram is based out of Marymount University in Arlington, Va., but most of the activity will be in Washington, Patrick said. He'll spend a day on Capitol Hill with U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-NH, visit the White House, and possibly meet the President.

Just as with Boys State, Doolittle had to submit a bill to Boys Nation. Because he volunteers at the Veterans Hospital in Manchester, he came up with a bill providing incentives and opportunities for disabled veterans to start their own small businesses. He e-mailed it to Boys Nation last week.

Doolittle is a class officer at Pinkerton Academy, a member of the varsity swim and tennis teams, and a member of the National Honor Society, Community

Alliance for Teen Safety (CATS), and the Red Cross Youth Leadership Team. He won a previous contest with the American Legion, traveling to Indiana for a public speaking contest on the Constitution.

Though he won't turn 18 in time to vote, Doolittle is excited about the upcoming Presidential election. He plans to attend every rally and appearance he can, saying, "That's one of the blessings of living in New Hampshire." He's an Obama supporter, he said, though he "likes Romney as a person."

"But I'm bipartisan, willing to compromise," he said. "That's huge for me."

He is the son of Peter and Wendy Doolittle, and has one sister, Hannah, in college.

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Variety, Tranquility at Hampstead Garden Walk

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

People strolled, stopped and gazed, and even sat for a while to enjoy the cool drinks and delicious refreshments offered at each garden as they took a leisurely tour of the six gardens on the Hampstead Garden Club's Garden Walk Saturday, July 21, under blue skies and delightful mild temperatures.

Among the gardens on the tour was the Duston farm at 390 East Road. The century-old stonewalls and white picket fence dressed with perennials are a welcoming sight at the farm's entrance. An unheated greenhouse allows the growing season to extend from March into December.

The Dustons and University of New Hampshire Coop-

erative Extension Master Gardeners were available to share their knowledge. Their focus is produce for eating, canning, freezing, and sharing, ranging from berries to vegetables to huge morning glories.

The gardens include ground level and raised beds, and the Dustons are ardent recyclers - composting garden scraps, using strips of old nylons to tie up tomato plants, and pieces of old venetian blinds for plant labels. They are organic produce growers and raise mealworms to feed bluebirds; one birdhouse was taped off because bluebird babies were in the next.

Ginny Duston will turn 90 at the end of July but remains active and engaged.

A Tranquil Haven, at 18 Lexington Drive, is a group-

ing of several gardens that Joyce Bertolino created as grief therapy after the death of her son, Marine Pfc. Matthew Bertolino. The gardens are home to a variety of birdhouses, feeders and bird-baths, with one garden dedicated to Matthew and another on the hill behind her house recognizing all the branches of the service. Pinkerton Academy Air Force Junior ROTC member Richard Charity of Hampstead was at the Bertolino garden in uniform, paying respect to the gardens' theme.

The other four gardens on the Garden Walk were: Cascades & Koi Pergola Retreat, 27 Lilac Lane, Sandown, Karen and Dan Donovan; A Calming Place to De-Stress, 118 Central St., East Hampstead, Drusilla and Daniel Gamelin; My Place of



A sunflower stands tall at the Duston farm garden on East Road, left, while the garden created by Joyce Bertolino in memory of her son, Matthew, is shown at right. Both gardens were part of the Hampstead Garden Club Garden Walk.

Serenity, 30 East Road, Hampstead, Cheryl and

Richard Poussard; and Sense Drive, Hampstead, Pan and of Harmony, 14 Pinewood Bob Boulter.

Contractor to Fix Problem at Town Beach Swale

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD — Town Engineer Nick Cricenti has advised the Beach Committee that the reason the swale at the Town Beach is not working as expected is that it was not properly installed.

He said that based on a second survey done by Chris Dane, the design Cricenti provided was correct.

That conclusion appears to leave Bennett Construction holding the bag for the issues at the swale.

According to Cricenti, the outfall pipes are 4 inches too low and the top of the rocks in the swale between the check dam, which is one and a half feet too low, and the edge of the lake, are 6 inches too low. He said more rocks must be added to build the swale up to the

proper height.

If the committee wants to prevent lake debris from washing back into the swale, a dam will need to be positioned at the lake's edge. Cricenti said it won't take much work to correct the height of the rock swale and will probably require only 5 to 6 yards of material to correct the plunge pool and build the check dam. He said Bennett would be

responsible for doing that work, while the Town would have to take care of the lake's edge dam if it wishes to cut down on lake debris being blown back into the swale.

Sally Theriault, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant and Beach Committee member, said the committee owes Bennett for ledge and catch basin work that was extra, and she also has questions about bills outstand-

ing from Cricenti.

The second survey that was done to determine what was wrong with the swale will be charged to Bennett. Cricenti emphasized that the swale issues resulted from Bennett Construction's failure to build the project to plan specifications.

Bennett was not present at last week's meeting. Contacted by the Tri-Town Times, Chad Bennett said, "I heard, and when Rec is over for the summer, I will take

care of adding some stone. It's a simple fix and will only take a little while, but the Road Agent, Jon Worthen, asked me to do it after Rec is over for the summer."

The committee planned to ask the Fire Department to flush the swale, after committee member Barbara Gallant agreed to go into the swale and rake out the debris that has accumulated and is causing an unpleasant odor and attracting mosquitoes.

Vandalism

continued from page 1

hour, while the rest of 121A heading to Plaistow from Route 111 and from Odell Road into Sandown is 30 mph.

"I have had calls from people asking if we can lower the speed because they are having difficulty getting out onto 121A from the side streets," he said. "We can justify the lowering of the speed there as we've had two fatalities there in the last couple of years."

• The board said it had no problem with looking at lowering the speed, a matter that would go to the Highway Safety Committee first. If a recommendation were to lower the speed, the state would do a traffic study and

ultimately make the final decision.

The board authorized Beaudoin to start the process.

• Only one response came in to a Request for Proposals for the Fire Department's communications upgrade that was approved at Town Meeting. The response is from 2-Way Communications of Newington, and Fire Chief Michael Carrier said that was the vendor the department routinely uses.

The bid was \$35,271.74 for a series of five communication elements for the department's infrastructure, including a repeater to be installed in town to enhance the department's communication capabilities, as well as upgrades for pagers, portable radios and mobile

units. The warrant article approved by voters allowed \$39,000 for the project.

Carrier said the amount of the bid was less than expected and he recommended the board approve

it, which it did. Carrier said his department would start on the upgrade process immediately but noted it might not be complete before the end of the year.

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TRI-TOWN HAPPENINGS

CHESTER

Farmers' Market, Car Night

Chester Congregational & Baptist Church, 4 Chester St., will host a Farmers' Market on Aug. 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. (rain date is Aug. 23). The date coincides with Chester's Cruisin' Car Night, which takes place directly across the street from the church and offers classic cars, food, ice cream, raffles and music. For more information, call the church office at 887-4799 or email chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net. The Chester Historical Society will be open the same nights as the Farmers Markets and car shows, and the antique mail wagon will be on display outdoors. Scarecrows can be picked up at this time.

Fall Soccer

Registration for the fall season of the Chester Soccer Club is open through Aug. 15. Early registration is \$50 (no shirt) or \$70 (new shirt needed). Any registration postmarked after Aug. 15 will cost \$65 (no shirt) or \$85 (new shirt). Any child ages 4 through 17 can regis-

ter. Divisions U8 - U18 are part of a recreation league of local towns. Any parents interested in coaching may email board@chesternhsoccer.com and attend one free evening coaching clinic in August. Coaches will get a rebate on one child's registration, and coaches who attend the clinic will receive larger rebates. Visit: www.chesternhsoccer.com for details.

Adult Author Night

Chester Public Library's Local Author Night features authors for an adult audience on Wednesday, Aug. 1, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Authors who will talk about and sell their works include poet Robert Crawford, Bennett Gavrish, Tim Horvath, Renee Mallett, poet Jenn Monroe, Holly Robinson, and Michael Shea. The library is at 3 Chester St., at the junction of Routes 121 and 102. For more information, call 887-3404.

Warriors Party

Erin Hunter's Warriors Party takes place Thursday, July 26, at the Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., from 2 to 4 p.m. Warriors

games and a trivia contest are planned. Fans of the Warriors series ages 8-12 are asked to reserve space to attend the party by calling the library at 887-3404.

Co-ed Volleyball

Chester Recreation is offering free adult co-ed pickup volleyball on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at the Chester Multi-purpose room. Call the Recreation Department for more information at 887-5773 or email: sharon@chesternhrec.org

Soccer Coaching Clinics

Challenger Sports will hold free soccer coaching clinics at the Chester town soccer field Aug 7 (U6), 8 (U8), and 9 (U10, U12, U15 and U18). Chester Soccer Club coaches who attend one of the clinics will get a rebate on their child's registration. For further information, visit: <http://www.chesternhsoccer.com/>.

PJs Storytimes

PJs Storytimes at Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., are Thursdays, Aug. 2 and Aug. 9, at 7 p.m. The programs are for ages 3 to 6, with children invited to

come to the library wearing their pajamas. For more information, call the Library at 887-3404.

Treasurer Hunt

Hidden treasure in the form of extra Summer Reading Program raffle tickets can be found at the Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St. The library holds a Treasure Hunt on Monday Aug. 6, both at 7 p.m. Summer Reading Program registration continues in July. For more information, call the Library at 887-3404.

Book Discussion

The Chester Public Library Book Group Discussion meets every third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. On Aug. 21 the topic is the book "Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress" by Dai Sijie. Cardholders may borrow copies of the books to be discussed. For more information, call the Library at 887-3404.

Challenger Soccer Camp

The Chester Soccer Club is hosting Challenger Sports soccer camp Aug. 6-10 at the Chester town soccer field. Any child ages 4-15 from any town can sign up for one of three sessions that week: Full Day, ages 8-15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Half

Day, ages 6-15, 9 a.m. to noon; and Mini-soccer, ages 4-6, 1 to 2:30 p.m. For the registration link visit www.chesternhsoccer.com/.

Challenger Goalie Camp

Challenger's Southern New Hampshire Goalie Camp will be held at the Chester town soccer field Aug 6-10. Any child ages 7-15 from any town is welcome to sign up for one of two sessions: for ages 7 to 10, 4 to 6 p.m., and for ages 10 to 14, 6 to 8 p.m. For the registration link, visit <http://www.chesternhsoccer.com/>.

Arts Contest

Chester Public Library holds a Visual/Literary Arts Contest for ages 8 to 15 in the following categories: drawing, photography, and poetry. Entries must be received by Friday, Aug. 3. The Contest Awards Ceremony will be held Thursday, Aug. 16, during the Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact the library at 887-3404.

Storytimes

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., offers free Storytimes with stories and crafts every Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. with Mrs. Emily. For more information, call 887-3404.

HAMPSTEAD

Film Festival

As part of its Film Noir Festival, the Hampstead Public Library will present Alfred Hitchcock's "Notorious" on Thursday, Aug. 9, at 7 p.m.

Crafters Wanted

The Hampstead Mothers' Club announces its 27th annual Craft Fair, set for Hampstead Middle School on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds benefit the children of Hampstead. Spaces for crafters and artists are 6- by-10-feet with two chairs provided, for \$6. For more information on vendor registration, contact Sarah Wisecarver at 329-5290 or sarahwise-carver@rocketmail.com.

Dream Interpretation

The Hampstead Public Library presents Susan Morgan, author of "The Power of Dreams," at 7 p.m. Aug. 13. She will give an overview of how to increase dream recall and how to take steps toward learning what dreams mean.

Hometown Olympics

The Hampstead Public Library offers a chance for kids to practice their skills in traditional events as well as the "Library Olympics"

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on Wednesday, Aug. 1, at 2 p.m. Everyone who participates will win a medal.

Library After Dark

A family program featuring mime Robert Rivest takes place at the Hampstead Public Library on Wednesday, Aug. 8, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Audience participation is part of the event. Members of the New Hampshire Astronomical Society will also be at the library that evening to give a presentation and, weather permitting, they will bring several telescopes for stargazing outside. The library will also provide food and raffles.

Senior Trip

The Hampstead Seniors are planning a trip to Mohegan Sun on Wednesday, Aug. 22, leaving St. Anne's Church parking lot at 7 a.m. and returning about 5:30 p.m. Sign-up is Wednesday, Aug. 1, between 9 and 10 a.m. at the Meeting House on Emerson Avenue. Age restriction is 62 years old and above. Cost

is \$5 per person for Hampstead residents, and \$10 for non-residents. Payment is due at sign-up. Hampstead seniors receive first choice; all others are placed on a waiting list. Proof of residence is required. For more information, call Cleta Barry at 329-.

Film Noir Festival

The Hampstead Public Library presents the film "Sunset Boulevard" on Thursday, July 26, at 7 p.m. for the third installment in its Film Noir Festival.

Bats

The Hampstead Public Library presents a free program on bats on Monday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m. Brought by "Speaking for Wildlife," a volunteer project of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, New Hampshire Coverts Project and New Hampshire Fish & Game, the program will discuss the kinds of bats found in the state, where to look for them, and how landowners and homeowners can help

conserve these mammals. Also discussed will be the impact of white-nose syndrome on bats, what scientists are learning about this threat, and how residents can help. The program is suitable for adults and kids.

Book Discussions

At its August meeting, the Third Thursday Book Group at the Hampstead Public Library will discuss "Sense of an Ending" by Julian Barnes on Aug. 16 at 1 p.m. The Non-Fiction Book Group will discuss "Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World" by Mark Kurlansky on Monday, Aug. 20, at 7 p.m. Copies of both books are available at the library's front desk. Newcomers are always welcome.

Music Performance

The Hampstead Public Library Summer Reading Program goes on the road with a performance by singer Rick Golden at Hampstead Middle School on Thursday, July 26,

at 10 a.m. Children can sing, dance and jump along with Golden and his singing animal puppets. This program is sponsored by the Hampstead Recreation Department.

Climbing Wall

From 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, July 26, the Hampstead Public Library invites middle school students to try out a climbing wall at the library. A 26-foot vertical wall will be set up on the library's front lawn. The Indoor Ascent company will provide safety equipment and have staff present.

Lamontagne at GOP

The Hampstead Republican Committee will meet Monday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hampstead Public Library to host gubernatorial candidate Ovide Lamontagne, who will present his vision for the state. Residents of surrounding communities are welcome to attend. For more information, email: hampstead-gop@gmail.com

Angle Pond Barbecue

The Angle Pond Lake Association Board holds its annual summer barbecue July 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the home of Richard Towne, 23 Holts Point Road. A short association meeting is planned, and food and soft drinks are provided by the committee. The speaker is from the state Department of Safety Marine Patrol and will discuss boat safety and regulations. Angle Pond logo polo shirts, T-shirts, hats, visors and sweatshirts can be ordered. Dues of \$40 should be paid at the meeting or by sending a check to Louise Sayre at Angle Pond Lake Association, PO Box 34, East Hampstead, NH 03826. A fishing derby is planned for 10 a.m. Aug. 12. For questions, call Kathy Smith at 329-6838.

Farmers Market

The Hampstead Farmers Market will be open Saturday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **continued on page 15**



Majestic

Corinn Szostkiewicz of Hampstead is a member of the all-youth cast of the "Pinocchio Show" at The Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts in Manchester, which will tour local libraries and community venues as part of Majestic's outreach program this summer. A free performance takes place at Stark Park in Manchester on Thursday, July 26, at 7 p.m. For more information, call The Majestic Theatre at 669-7469 or visit www.majestictheatre.net.

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Happenings

continued from page 13

days through Oct. 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Stage Road Junction parking lot off Mary E. Clark Drive, and offers produce and items from local farmers, producers, and craftsmen. Fresh vegetables, herbs, fruits, honey, jams and jellies, dairy products and meats will be available, along with prepared food items such as soups and breads.

Farmers Market Storytime

The Hampstead Public Library is taking Storytime outside on Saturday, Aug. 4, from 11 a.m. to noon. Farm-themed books will be read, songs will be sung, and games will take place on the library's front lawn. Afterward, parents and kids are encouraged to visit the town's Farmers Market next door.

Summer Concerts

Hampstead Meeting House Park's 2012 free Summer Concert Series take place Tuesdays at 6 p.m., rain or shine. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and picnic. The schedule is: Tuesday, July 31, Rico Barr Swing Band; Tuesday, Aug. 7, Don Campbell; Tuesday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m. Southern Rail; and Tuesday, Aug. 21, The 60's Invasion Band.

Talent Show

The Hampstead Public Library's sixth annual "Hampstead Idol!" talent show takes place Tuesday, July 31, at 6:30 p.m. Kids and adults are welcome to be part of the show. Sign up in advance at the library at 329-6411, or email pfalconer@hampstead.lib.nh.us.

Library Art

The Hampstead Public Library features the work of local artist Christine Casarano, with her paintings on display in the library's second floor meeting room now through Aug. 17. She is a self-taught painter whose

preferred medium is acrylics.

Golf Tourney

The Hampstead Civic Club Golf Tournament takes place Friday, Aug. 10, at Windham Country Club, with registration from 6 to 7 a.m., and a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start, with scramble format. The entry fee of \$125 per player includes greens fees, cart, and post-golf dinner. Visit www.Hampstead-CivicClub.com for registration. Call Ken Fure at 339-1116 with questions.

Kids' Bible Club

The Island Pond Baptist Church Kids' Bible Club has resumed and will continue to meet each Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m. throughout the summer. Kids' Club is for first through fifth graders and includes snacks, games, activities and lesson time. Each lesson stands on its own, so students can attend any meeting. Island Pond Baptist Church is at 26 North Salem Road. For more information, visit www.islandpondbc.org or call the church office at 329-5959.

SANDOWN

Bake-Off

The Sandown Mothers Club's Annual Bake off Contest will be held at Sandown Old Home Day on Saturday, Aug. 11. Categories are adults (over 13): cakes, pies, muffins and quick breads; and children (13 years and under): cakes, brownies and cookies. No cheesecakes or cream pies can be accepted. Registration is at the Central School cafeteria from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Aug. 11. Suggested donation is \$3 for an adult entry and \$1 per child entry. Enter as many items as you wish. Each category is judged on creativity, presentation and taste.

Old Home Day Service, Dinner

The Old Meeting House Historical Association announces the annual Old Home Day Service at Sandown's Old Meeting House on Fremont Road. It will be held on Sunday, Aug. 12, at 11 a.m. Featured speaker will be State Rep. Norman Major. Immediately following the service, a pot roast dinner will be held at St. Matthew's Church. The dinner is by reservation only. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children age 12 and under, and free for preschoolers. Call Arlene at 887-3453 or email abassett@gsinet.net for reservations.

Meeting House Open House

The Old Meeting House Historical Association will hold an open house on Saturday, Aug. 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Take a break from the Old Home Day activities and tour this historic building before heading to the Sandown Volunteer Fire Department's Chicken Barbecue.

Frog Jumping Contest

Sandown Mothers Club is hosting its annual frog jumping contest on Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Sandown Old Home Days celebration. The contest will begin at 8:30 a.m. behind Sandown Central School, with registration from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Bring your own frog in an appropriate container that is out of the sun; the frog must be released into a natural habitat after the contest. Children of all ages can participate.

Citizen of Year

The Old Home Day Committee is seeking nominations for Sandown Citizen of the Year to acknowledge the ongoing efforts of a Sandown resident who has shown exceptional dedication and service to the community for the improvement and betterment of Sandown and its people. Nomination forms can be printed from the town website at www.sandown.us and are also available, along with drop off boxes, at Sandown Town Hall, Sandown Public Library, Sandown Post Office, and Bruchetti's. Nominations close July 23. The winner will be announced at Old Home Days on Saturday, Aug. 11. For more information or to obtain a nomination form, contact Paula Gulla at 887-3646 or at pgulla@sandown.us.

Seeley Beach

Sandown Recreation announces that Seeley Beach is open daily with lifeguard-supervised swimming from 9:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Feeding of water fowl is prohibited. Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18. No animals are allowed.

Water Country

Sandown Parks and Recreation has discount Water Country tickets available for \$29.99 per person. Tickets are good any day the park is open during the 2012 season. Give the recreation office 24 to 48 hours notice at 887-1872. Payment is by check or money order only and payable to Sandown Recreation.

Cribbage Club

The Sandown Public Library offers a Cribbage Club at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. All levels of experience are welcome.

Paranormal Activity

At 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 26, at the Sandown Public Library, local paranormal investigation group North East Paranormal Associates will share stories and pictures of the paranormal gathered during investigations. This program is for tweens and older.

Timberlane Youth Soccer

The non-profit Timberlane Youth Soccer League's online registration is open for the fall season. The season runs for eight weeks and begins Saturday, Sept. 8, and ends Saturday, Nov. 3. Registration is \$50 for U6-U12 divisions and \$65 for U14-U16. Registration ends Aug. 15. For more information, visit www.timberlaneyouthsoccer.org or call 382-3344. The program is for Sandown, Atkinson, Danville, and Plaistow. Coaches are needed.

Radio Control Planes

A Radio Control Airplane demonstration with brothers Tyler and Steven McCormack at Sandown Central Field takes place Monday, July 30, at 6 p.m. The program is sponsored by the Sandown Public Library.

Creatures of the Night

"Creatures of the Night" takes place Tuesday, July 31, at 10:30 a.m. at Sandown Town Hall. The W.I.L.D. Center & Zoological Park will bring nocturnal reptiles, mammals and one of the only Flying Foxes and Egyptian Fruit Bats in the Northeast.

Weekly Raffle

The Sandown Public Library offers a weekly raffle for six graders and up, with the winners announced every Saturday between noon and 1 p.m. Enter the raffle for each read book being returned.

Garden Club

The Sandown Garden Club presents a program titled "A Cutting Garden: Plan, Plant and Enjoy," given by Club members Audrey Vargish and June McNally on Monday, Aug. 6, at 7 p.m. at the Sandown Recreation Center on Pheasant Run Drive. The program, accompanied by color slides, will focus on selecting an appropriate site for the garden, preparing the beds, choosing plants and enjoying fresh cut flowers from the garden. Refreshments and door prizes are planned. The Sandown Garden Club is a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. For more information, visit www.sandowngardenclub.org.

Hampstead Board of Adjustment PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a hearing of the Hampstead Board of Adjustment, August 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building, 11 Main Street, Hampstead, NH for the following:

To consider the request of Boemark Construction Corp. for a Special Exception to the terms of Article IV Section 14:2B of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit the creation of an in-law/accessory apartment for property located at 139 Buttrick Rd., Hampstead, NH in the Residential Zone, Map 11 Parcel 105.

Discussion with Chief Building Official.

Kristin Yassenka, Chairman
Hampstead Board of Adjustment

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